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From the Mississippi.

TO THE PUBLIC.

I have no ambition of occupying the attention of my fellow citizens in newspaper controversies, which are personal to myself. Those who know me, will do me the justice to bear witness, that I have never been anxious to thrust myself before the public in any manner whatever.

I am a private, obscure individual, neither a candidate for office, nor an expectant of popular favor or promotion; yet B. W. Edwards, one of the aspirants to the gubernatorial chair of this state, has seen proper to publish one of my private, confidential letters, and in a lengthy address, to assail me in a manner, which is a source of duty and self respect, obliging me to reply. His publication has excited in me no other feeling, than that of contempt; and did it not abound in glaring misstatements of facts, I should let it pass for what it is, a nucleus of public ridicule and derision.

Major Edwards charges me in his address, with being the "chief organ" of a system of proscription against himself, and his claims to the office to which he aspires. A brief narrative of facts, will show how far this charge is entitled to credence.

I have neither the power nor the wish to proscribe any man, who is entitled to public confidence, or the political support of the party to which I belong.

On my return from Washington, in April last, when I assumed the control of this paper, there were several gentlemen of the republican party, aspiring to the chief magistracy of the state; among the number, was Maj. B. W. Edwards—all of course, could not be elected. As the conduct of a leading political journal, wishing for the supremacy of correct principles, my object was union. I then believed either of the gentlemen suggested, worthy of support. General Rounsell, who was my first choice, had positively refused to permit his name to go before the people, as the candidate of the republican party. My next choice, was Maj. Edwards, whom I then believed to be thoroughly republican in all his political sentiments, and for whom I entertained a warm, personal friendship. I was of the opinion, that he would more readily unite the republican party than either of the other aspirants; and my friendship for him, induced me to urge his claims with as much zeal, as became me. Upon the republican members of the legislature, then in session, I urged the propriety of sustaining him. I never could get more than four of them to agree with me in the propriety of sustaining Major Edwards. I was continually answered, that one had once had a fair trial before the people, and been beaten; and that, moreover, his recent step law notions, had used him up. The truth is, that if my conduct was liable to any censure, it was being too active in this gentleman's behalf. Yet after all this, Major Edwards has seen proper to censure my course in the following lugubrious strain:

"In commenting upon my late circular, addressed to the people of Mississippi, you commence, as if much surprised, by expressing your deep regret and mortification at its contents, notwithstanding you must have long since been apprised of my political views, particularly upon the subject of a national bank. These opinions were publicly expressed by me, previously to, and during the sitting of the democratic convention, more than two years since, and were used against me, by some of my political friends, while a candidate for congress. They were likewise freely avowed by me during the late called session of the legislature, often perhaps in your presence, even before I became a candidate for governor; and you could not have been unapprised of the fact. Before I was announced in your paper, I delivered a speech at Raymond, in your own county, in reply to Major McNutt, avowing myself decidedly in favor of a new national bank, of which you were well apprised. I heard of no objection then, on your part, against me. Notwithstanding it was generally known, (and you could not have been ignorant of it) that I was in favor of such a bank, you urged me to become a candidate, and expressing your conviction, that I was manifestly the choice of the republican party, voluntarily pledged yourself to support me. This you also avowed in the Mississippiian of the 25th of April last, about the time I consented to become a candidate.

"In a few days after this, however, Major McNutt was brought out as a candidate, in opposition to my humble pretensions, and you then declared neutrality. This you affected to maintain, until the publication of the present number of your paper, now before me, which constitutes the subject matter of this address. Why you should have continued so long neutral between Major McNutt and myself, under all these circumstances—why I will so warmly advocate the claims of Colonel Claiborne, who avows himself with me upon the subject of the bank—and why now assail me with so much party zeal, upon this pretext only, are mysteries of which I leave the world to judge."

I wish, in the first place, to settle this question of pledges, and I distinctly disavow, ever having given Major Edwards, or any other candidate, a pledge to support him, unless he was the candidate of the republican party. As the conductor of a paper, I could not consistently do otherwise.

The article to which he alludes in the above extract from the Mississippiian of the 25th of April, which was published the Friday previous to the meeting of the legislature, contains the whole extent of my pledges and assurances.

In that article, after avowing my preference for Edwards, and recommending the party to unite in his support, I hold the following language: "We have heard various individuals suggested. Only one can be elected; and the one who can unite the party, and succeed in the canvass, is the proper person to be selected as the democratic candidate. Union is indispensable to success, &c. &c."

And concluding, by further saying, "We throw out these remarks by way of suggestion, and invite the republican presses in the state, to frankly avow their opinions as to the candidate who shall be sustained, under the present circumstances. Union is our object—we are willing to support any man, good and true, who can combine the strength of the democracy of the country, and no one of that party should obtrude himself upon it, who cannot thus unite it."

Major Edwards has referred to the above article, as a pledge to support him at all events. I ask the candid reader, if it contains any such assurance?

After the three republican candidates were in the field, I declared in the paper of the 12th of May, that I should support that one, which time should show to be the strongest with the people. This determination I had previously expressed to Mr. McNutt, who declared himself perfectly satisfied with it; and to Major Edwards, whose reply was, that we could not tell who was the strongest candidate. This conversation was a few days previous to the adjournment of the legislature, and previous to the Raymond meeting.

Major Edwards knows perfectly well, that the article of the 25th of April, was only an effort to elicit public sentiment in relation to the candidate proper to be sustained, and so expressed to a distinguished friend of one of the other candidates. So far from pledging myself to support him, I say distinctly in that article, that I will support any man of the party, good and true, who can combine its strength.

Major Edwards and myself, held many conversations upon this subject; but whether important or not, I shall forbear to speak of them, because they might have been understood, as confidential. Although, he has seen proper to publish my private and confidential letter, no feeling of resentment, shall induce me to follow so unworthy and example, and do that, which would not only degrade me in my own estimation, but make me feel that I had violated every principle of honorable confidence, held sacred among gentlemen. Major Edwards knows, that I was under no obligation to support him, unless he was the candidate of the party. He knows that my attempt to unite the republican press in his behalf, failed. He knows that all the exertions of his friends to unite the party in his support, proved abortive; and disguise the fact as he may, and talk as he will, about "spontaneous calls" from all parts of the state, he knows perfectly well, that he was not the choice of the republican party.

Yet, notwithstanding all these manifestions, he still continues his efforts to drive the party into his support. He seems to be of the opinion, that he has a vested right to the vote of every man in the community.

Major Edwards, in the above extract, labors to get up the impression, that I knew he was in favor of a national bank, previous to my urging his support for governor. This is not only erroneous, but is edging the question, I was not a member of the democratic convention, in which he says he advocated a national bank. My knowledge of his sentiments on that subject, was derived from his address of eighteen hundred and thirty-five, published by the legislature, after the adjournment of the convention, in which he says, "I am decidedly and irrevocably opposed to the recharter of the United States bank, both on the grounds of its unconstitutionality and of its inexpediency."

After such a declaration, would any reasonable man have supposed him the advocate of a new bank? Could language be more explicit than the above? This was all I knew of the Major's bank views for a long time after the publication of the Mississippiian of the 25th of April, which contains the only article I ever wrote, urging his pretensions.

Several weeks after this, Major Edwards and myself met at the Raymond court; he then casually, in conversation, mentioned his monetary project of a bank. I dissented with him entirely upon the subject, and endeavored to show the absurdity of his plan. He did not then avow his intention of advocating his new project, and I regarded it rather as tale, than any settled intention. Indeed, I did not imagine, that any man of common capacity, would seriously think of so wild a scheme.

This the first, and the only occasion, I ever heard Major Edwards converse upon the subject of a national bank. A short time subsequently to the adjournment of the legislature, Messrs. McNutt and Edwards met at Raymond, and although not present, I then, for the first time, learned that Major Edwards was an avowed advocate for a national bank. Major Edwards says, that after his speech at Raymond, I urged him to become a candidate, expressing my conviction, that he was manifestly the choice of the republican party, and voluntarily pledged myself to support him.

Now, so far from this being true, I have not even seen Major Edwards since his speech at Raymond, and have not said a word in behalf of his claims, in the paper, since the 25th of April! It is impossible, therefore, that I could have given him either public or private assurances of support, after the declaration of his bank notions in his Raymond speech. On the contrary, he must know, that I complained of his course to several of his Clinton friends, as soon as I heard of the sentiments contained in his Raymond speech; and the only reason I did not then censure his views in the Mississippiian, was, that I wished first to get a fair expression of them on paper, that I might do him no injustice.

Really, the Major's recollection must be completely obliterated by the banking mania. The whigs, since they have had him in keeping, have entirely added his brain. One would think, they would be anxious to steep his memory in the waters of Lethe as soon as possible, lest the ghosts of his former principles, should shout after him from the tomb.

After the above plain statement of facts, Major Edwards, unless he is as reckless of moral feeling as of the confidings of friendship, cannot say that I have violated any pledge of support. Having declared explicitly, that I should support no man, except the one who could combine the republican party, I was under no obligation to support Edwards, when every development proved conclusively, that he was not the man to effect this object. Almost the entire north and east, so far as can be learned, have declared against him. Not a democratic press, save one, to my knowledge, has spoken of him, but to censure his course; yet he gravely contends, that he is a tower of strength—a sort of battering ram candidate, who is to take all the votes of the country by storm.

Admitting that I had pledged myself to support the pretensions of Major Edwards, believing him to be opposed to a national bank, would I have been under any obligation to continue that support, after he declared himself a bank man, thus abandoning his friends on the most vital question of the administration?

The bank question is now the only political topic of any magnitude before the country. The republican party have warred against it for eight years, and have at length succeeded in prostrating it. Can one of that party, who has opposed it, turn bank man, and still claim the democratic support? As well might Arnold have expected his companions in the cause of liberty, to follow him into the camp of the enemy! The fate of that worthy ought to be a warning to many of the politicians of the day.

There are many, who think, that the personal popularity alone of General Jackson, carried through many of his measures; and that having retired from the scene of action, the policy of his administration will be readily abandoned. They are mistaken. The secret of his success, was his advocacy of human liberty. No man who has ever lived in this country, has left so indelibly upon the public mind, the impress of his character and his principles. His name will be a watchword, and his administration a beacon to popular rights, for centuries to come.

Politicians who have once shouted Jackson for popularity's sake, but now that he is reclining on his laurels at the Hermitage, think they can play true to his principles, while silent, will be undecieved, and let "alone in their glory," whenever they make the experiment.

In the political parties of this country, there is much devotion to principle; and no man need expect to be sustained for political office, who does not adhere to one set of opinions or the other. No man will be elevated in this country by a claim, simply because he is a good fellow. There is too much competition in that way.

Maj. Edwards prefers a very grave charge of inconsistency against me, by saying that I oppose him and support Colonel Claiborne for congress, whom the Major alleges, to be with him on the bank question.

Now, it so happens, that Colonel Claiborne has published an address to the people, in which he pronounces all such charges to be slanders. Col. C. has distinctly avowed, that he will not vote for any national bank, without an amendment of the constitution; and has said to me and to others, that he is opposed to amending the constitution for that purpose.

With what propriety Major Edwards can allege that Colonel Claiborne is with him on the subject of the bank, I leave the reader to determine. There is a remedy called the polls, for all prominent administration men who go over to the bank party, and run up the whig flag.

The Major, in his assault upon me and my humble course, is not only vindictive and denunciatory, but over polite and classical. Hear him:

"Until of late, I viewed you as my warmest friend, and you gave me repeated assurances of the fact—any, more, you avowed your gratitude to me for friendship which you never could forget. But, O tempora mores! how the times have changed! You now stand arrayed against me, and must I claim in the language of the dying Caesar, when he received the vital stab from the hand of Brutus, 'and then too my son!'"

This deep debt of gratitude, to which the Major has so graciously alluded, consists in his having voted for me to carry the returns of this state to the city of Washington; and although it was no more than what I had a right to expect, from the position I then occupied, it was an act on his part, which I would have repaid in kind, had he not forced me, in common with his other old political friends, to abandon him in the present contest. The public will doubtless fully appreciate his magnanimity in the allusion.

It will not be necessary for me to reply to the Latin and French, which Gov. Edwards has so richly spiced his proclamation against me; for I must do him the justice to say, I believe him profoundly ignorant of both languages; and above all, I shall not comment on the pure Latin, of "O tempora mores." But the Major can read English, and I must be permitted to carry out a little his allusion to Shakespeare. He represents himself as the dying Caesar, and me as Brutus, striking for the liberties of the country. If he is satisfied with the simile, I certainly have no reason to complain. It seems, according to the Major's own showing, that he has crossed the Rubicon, and joined the bank party, in a crusade against the principles of the administration, and now quarrels with me, because I do not choose to follow him. Here we part, "not that I love Caesar less," but the good, old republican principles more.

But my dear major, gaeconading is foolish,

and comparison odious. I lay no claims to the character of Brutus, and be assured, the world will never mistake you for Caesar. He had too much generalship to seek to conquer Rome, by abandoning his friends and going over to his enemies. He adhered to his old, faithful and well tried soldiers. Had he abandoned them, in seeking to win over the legions of Pompey, he would have sunk down as you have, between two contending parties—pointed at as a recreant by one, and laughed to scorn by the other. He would never have lived to die, "even at the base of Pompey's statue."

Major Edwards has preferred another very serious charge against me, which I know not well how to answer. He says, I am "just from the frozen regions of the north." It is true, that about four years since, I emigrated to this state from New England, "where American liberty raised its first voice, and where it still lives in the strength of its matchless, and full of its original spirit"—a country which I am proud to acknowledge, as the land of my nativity—a country which fools and demagogues may denounce, but which the lovers of morality, learning, and liberty, will reverence and respect.

I have it from good authority, that Major Edwards voted for, and used his influence in behalf of one of the whig candidates for congress, who is from the same state that I am; but it seems, that which is a serious objection to me, was none to him; his being a whig had blotted out the state of his birth place, in the eyes of the Major. What a fine thing it is to be a whig!

In the opinion of Major Edwards, it is the mantle of charity which covers a multitude of sins, unto that of birth place. He even rebukes me, for pouring out upon the whigs, what he calls the "phials of my wrath." Upon this subject, the major is enthusiastic. He talks:

"With all the zeal,

"Which new and fiery converts feel."

Mr Edwards has accused me of unfairness, in commenting upon that part of his circular, which contains his views in relation to a national bank. I gave in two extracts, all he said upon this subject, both in eighteen hundred and thirty-five and in his recent address; and the public, when they read my article, could judge whether I was incorrect, or inconsistent. The context was given, as well as the comment. He endeavors to defend himself from the charge of inconsistency, by alleging that what he said in eighteen hundred and thirty-five, was confined to the old national bank, which he denounces as unconstitutional and inexpedient.

I would here inquire, whether the details of a bank of the United States, and the fact that its stock was owned by foreigners, (to which the Major objects) can, in any way, effect its constitutionality? If a constitutional at all, it is, because congress has no power to create any bank whatever. Any other reasoning would be absurd, by making one bank unconstitutional and another otherwise.

True, the Major, in his explanation of his circular, says, he should prefer that the constitution be amended, before a bank is chartered; but many great men have thought the bank constitutional, he would be disposed to yield his doubts, if congress should create a new bank. It is not for him to set his opinions against the world! A very convenient method of getting rid of constitutional scruples.

But Major Edwards has high authority for his course upon this subject. Mr. Clay declared the bank of eighteen hundred and eleven, both unconstitutional and inexpedient, but thought otherwise of the new bank of eighteen hundred and sixteen, which Major Edwards denounces as unconstitutional and unnecessary. It is doubtless this whig authority, which now influences the Major.

According to this reasoning, when a bank is young, it is constitutional and expedient, but when it grows old, it becomes unconstitutional and inexpedient.

What convenient logic for an aspiring politician? When it is unpopular to be a bank man, he has only to say, that the bank is old and unconstitutional; when popular, that it is new, and therefore constitutional and expedient.

Really, this is an important discovery, and the Major ought to secure a patent right for the invention.

I think the Major spoke prophetically in eighteen hundred and thirty-five, when he said "ambitious demagogues, and the leaders of opposing factions, are each striking for power; and all uniting under the bank standard, in hostile array against Gen. Jackson, and his probable successor, who may dare to carry out the principles of his administration."

Who would have thought, two years ago, that Major Edwards would have been one to array himself under the bank standard, against General Jackson's probable successor? This was the unkindest cut of all! The Major was right, when he exclaimed, "how things have changed!" They are sadly changed, and the Major's prophecy has become true, that "ambitious demagogues" are arraying themselves against Mr. Van Buren, for attempting to carry out General Jackson's principles in opposing a national bank.

The Major, very good naturedly, observes, that such leaders as I am, would ruin any cause. My reply is, that such leaders as Major Edwards, would give up the cause, and surrender all to the enemy, if he could be favorably provided for in the capitulation.

Since the Major says, that his plan of a bank on the surplus revenue, is not a "sine qua non," I will not quarrel with him about it, but shall insist in what I said on a former occasion, that this fund is sufficiently satisfactory for a bank stock, and that the government will, ere long, have to recall a large portion of it, to meet expenses. Besides, this

surplus was raised by a tax upon the whole community, and Major Edwards now proposes to turn it into a bank, for the benefit of a few. This new expedient to support a privileged order in this country, will never go down with the American people.

Major Edwards' patriotic defence of Gen. Jackson, from what he is pleased to call my charge of the General's being in favor of an executive bank, needs no refutation. What ever may have been Gen. Jackson's views, it is known that he abandoned every project of a national bank, as his messages and farewell address, will prove. The authority of Gen. Jackson is against Major Edwards' views in every particular, as well on the subject of banking, as that of the specie order, one of the wisest measures of his administration, but which the Major loudly condemns.

I leave the public to judge, which of us has been most consistent in supporting the principles of the past and present administrations.

I come now to speak of a subject, which for the reputation of Major Edwards, I would gladly have passed over in silence. It is his want of betrayal of every principle of confidential friendship, in publishing one of my private letters. And for what? To convict me of inconsistency, he says,

"But sir, where is your consistency? you are now a Benton politician, and an advocate of his 'golden rule' navy, more, you brand me as a traitor to my party, because I dare to differ from you upon this subject. The subjoined extract of a letter which you wrote me from Washington city, dated the 30th of January last, while there basking in the sunshine of courtly favor, will evince to the people of Mississippi, what they may call, have been the most consistent. The letter is not marked confidential, and is entirely political. I felt at liberty to show it to my friends upon receiving it, believing the sentiments contained therein, did you credit, and was not intended for concealment. Of course, you cannot charge me with any violation of private confidence, in giving it publication now."

The very effort which Major Edwards makes in the above paragraph, to justify his publication of my letter, shows a consciousness on his part, that he was committing an act of meanness. Now, that the excitement is past, I have no doubt but that he is both ashamed and sorry. Out of every syllable of the above extract, there peers a self conviction, of a violation of the duties of friendship, and the perpetration of a little act, for the purposes of a paltry revenge. Every line of the letter, bears upon its face, the impress of confidence, and had the whole been published, instead of an extract, that it was confidential, would have been still more manifest.

In the letter I speak of, men and things with a freedom and vivacity, in which no man would indulge, who expected his friend would publish it to the world, I call two distinguished members of the senate by nick names. The letter was evidently written in haste, and without care.

Major Edwards says, "the letter was not marked confidential, and was entirely political." Is a letter less confidential, because it happens to speak politics? Not marked confidential? No—not would I insult the feelings of any man, by marking confidential on a letter which was manifestly private; because I would not write confidentially to a man, whom I believed capable of betraying my communications.

The conduct of Major Edwards is the more execrable in this instance, as I had published the same sentiments, without speaking so lightly of men, in a series of letters from Washington, which were given to the public in the Mississippiian, and which every subscriber to that paper, knows to be from my pen. If he had intended only to convict me of inconsistency, why did he not take one of my published letters, instead of a private one, addressed to him at his own request.

This letter was written a very few days after the debate between Messrs. Benton and Walker, which resulted in a little sparring between those gentlemen.

This attempt of Major Edwards, to again drag the subject before the people of Mississippi, by the publication of a private correspondence, shows how much he has at heart, the good of the republican party.

Messrs. Benton and Walker are both distinguished supporters of the administration. A momentary excitement, produced between them a trifling misunderstanding, which I have no doubt, has long since been forgotten by both. In the affair, Mr. Walker stands entirely justified before the people. He acted wholly on the defensive. I have too high an opinion of the good sense and patriotism of those gentlemen, to suppose the affair produced any lasting coolness, or will in the least impair their united efforts in the cause of their country. Like all other momentary excitements, it will be but transient.

Major Edwards says, I am now a Benton politician. I fully appreciate the compliment, for whether all his views are adopted or not, Colonel Benton is engaged in a great reform, which will hand his name to posterity, as one of the proudest benefactors of his country; and when the party victory of the day shall have passed, he will be regarded as the Burke of his times. For years, he has been the Ajax of the administration in the senate; and an age hence, his speeches will be consulted by all, who wish to study the political history of their country.

But if by a "Benton politician," Major Edwards intends to infer, that I am an advocate of an exclusive metallic currency, he states what he must know, is unjust. I am an advocate for the reform of banking abuses. Even if banks, as corporations, were destroyed, private banks would spring up, and to some extent, furnish a paper currency.

My letter, so far from convicting me of inconsistency, entirely coincides with my present course on that subject. In that letter, I say "the truth is, there is a schism in our party, in relation to the currency; Benton, and a few others, wish to bring about an entire metallic circulating medium. Rives, and a large majority of the party, desire a mixed currency, of specie and paper, excluding small notes from circulation, and supplying their place with gold and silver."

Now, all I have advocated, is a mixed currency, in proper proportions. I have contended uniformly, that the banking system should be reformed, and all notes under one hundred dollars, be excluded from circulation, and gold and silver be permitted to take their place.

These are the proportions, which, I believe, would secure a sound circulating medium; and to prevent misconception, I have repeated these views in at least a dozen articles. I know that, by the opposition presses in that state, I am represented as a loco loco, and advocating an entire destruction of all bank paper. For them, I care nothing; but Major Edwards having chosen to endorse their slang, I shall take this occasion, to set myself right.

I have never gone beyond the doctrines of Mr. Van Buren's letter to Sherrod Williams, in reform of the banking system, and a gradual exclusion of all notes under one hundred dollars. These views have been sanctioned by the American people, and although Major Edwards now accuses me of ultraism, for maintaining them, he was an ardent supporter of Mr. Van Buren, and acted as one of the electors for this state. If he condemned these doctrines, then, why did he sanction them in supporting Mr. Van Buren for the presidency? Which is the most consistent, Major Edwards in opposing these views, or in supporting them? He publishes my letter to justify himself, for advocating a national bank.—Does he there find any intimation in favor of a bank? On the contrary, I have always opposed a national bank—because it has been the main spring of overbanking, and the multiplication of state banks. It has driven gold and silver out of circulation, and produced a wild spirit of speculation and overtrading, which have brought upon the country all its present calamities. Yet this is the whig regulator which Major Edwards so strenuously advocates. He pretends to say, that a majority of the republican party desire a national bank. I do not know a single member of the party, of any prominence, except himself, who is the advocate of a national bank; and the recent vote of the people of this state, for members of congress, will show their verdict upon this subject. None will pretend that Gholson has received any thing but an anti-bank vote; for he denounced any national bank through the press, and upon the stump.

Whatever may be the opinions of different members of the administration party in relation to the extent of reform that ought to take place in the banking system, all agree in their opposition to a national bank.

I ask now, what becomes of this charge of inconsistency against me upon the subject of the currency? But if I had found myself in error, "a boy in politics," as Major Edwards accuses me of being, I should, at least, have been justified in changing my views; but an old man, who has grown grey in travelling the right path, and then abandons it to suit the humor of the times, or secure political promotion, justly forfeits all claims to the confidence and respect of the community in which he lives.

Major Edwards has modestly requested me to publish in the Mississippiian, his assault of my character, and his obvious misstatement of facts. I hope, however, he will excuse me for not opening the columns of my own paper, to the publication of libels against myself.

I should not have made this publication, had not Major Edwards' attack rendered a reply necessary; and I now leave the public, to judge between us.

VOLNEY E. HOWARD.

MAJ. EDWARDS' ADDRESS—GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATE.

We have seen a copy of the Major's address, and have attentively read it. We are free to acknowledge that we were in part prepared to see such document from him. At the time we announced his name to the public as a candidate for gubernatorial honors we gave the substance of a speech made at Raymond. By this address it appears that we did not misquote him. Major Edwards, as he declares, has heretofore been identified with the democratic party; he has sustained the party and been ably and boldly supported by it. He has now seen fit to separate himself from the democratic ranks, and need no longer expect our support. We would not support a besom friend for a political station if his views of government conflicted with our own. The Major condemns party spirit. We are among that large majority who believe party spirit essential to liberty; without it a free government would soon be resolved into despotism. Party refers directly to principles, faction to men. The democratic party from the formation of our government has never been known to sacrifice principles to men. In this particular its uniform action has been in striking contrast with the practice of the opposition. He who condemns party must be an advocate of faction. He who condemns the democratic party is unworthy of its support.

Reference to the political history of our government will satisfy every one that the various attempts which have been made by factious men to subvert the democracy from their principles have ever been unsuccessful. The influence of a few ill-timed talents and great personal popularity may for a time enable men who had previously labored with the people to alienate a portion of them from a time from the path of duty, but the cardinal principles of democracy are so plain that a people as intelligent as ours cannot long be misled even by the mightiest genius. Look at Clay and Webster! and if such men fall before the democracy they were sustained by genius, eloquence and a never dying energy, the late which awaits the lesser spirits who would follow in their path is easy of prediction.

When we announced Major Edwards and Maj. McNutt as candidates for the office of governor, we expressed no preference for either. Up to the present period we have been unpledged, except so far as a convention was concerned. But now we pledge ourselves to support ALEXANDER G. McNUTT: we have confidence in his principles. His address is already before the people. Maj. Edwards' address will be presented. His bank views we cannot approve. That the legislature has the power to suspend the laws whenever they deem it necessary we deny—this smacks too much of the visionary notions of certain distinguished General who has recently been dubbed Gen. W. Calhoun.

We go for McNUTT.—Mississippi Free Trade.

Height of spunging.—A friend defines this to be "asking for a glass of ice water and a spoon to stir it with, and after drinking the water to carry off the spoon.—Picaqua.